



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 20, 2000

H.R. 4800 **Ronald Reagan Memorial Act of 2000**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on September 13, 2000

H.R. 4800 would establish the Ronald Reagan Memorial Commission and would authorize the commission to plan for the establishment of a memorial to the former President on federal lands in the District of Columbia. The three-member commission would raise funds from the private sector to design, construct, and maintain the memorial. It would choose a design for the memorial from proposals submitted by American architects and recommend to the Congress a location for the final structure. (The Congress would have to approve the site in subsequent legislation.) The bill would direct the National Capital Memorial Commission and the Secretary of the Interior to assist the commission in preparing a recommendation for the memorial's location and carrying out other responsibilities under the bill. Such assistance would include providing the commission with support staff.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the commission and the National Park Service (NPS) would spend less than \$500,000 over the next two years to solicit and choose a design for the memorial and prepare a recommendation for its location. The commission would probably begin collecting and spending private donations during this period, but the total amount of revenues that the federal government would receive would depend on the design chosen for the memorial as well as the success of fundraising efforts. Based on the cost of similar federal projects, CBO estimates that revenues from contributions could exceed \$50 million. We expect that contributions would be received over several years and would probably not exceed \$500,000 annually until a design is chosen. Spending of most of the revenues would require additional legislation to approve or select a site for the memorial. This estimate is based on information provided by NPS and the Office of Management and Budget.

Because the bill could affect revenues and direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.